

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Joseph H. Sklar et al.

Serial No.:

09/715,714

Filing Date:

11/17/00

For:

FIXATION SCREW, GRAFT LIGAMENT

ANCHOR ASSEMBLY, AND METHOD FOR

SECURING A GRAFT LIGAMENT IN A

BONE TUNNEL

Group Art Unit:

3738

Examiner:

Bruce Edward Snow

Attorney's Docket No.:

INNO-31

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Sir:

RESPONSE

James a. Sheridan 5, MAY (5, 2002

AMES A.

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action in the above-identified application.

Claims 1-25 stand subject to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 as follows:

Group I - Claims 1-20, drawn to a fixation screw/anchor, classified in class 623, subclass 13.14;

Group II - Claims 21-24, drawn to a method of securing a graft ligament, classified in class 623, subclass 13.14; and

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Group III - Claim 25, drawn to a bone tunnel liner,

In response, Applicants hereby elect, without prejudice, to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-20.

Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute all non-elected subject matter in related applications.

> Respectfully submitted, James a. Sheridan 5/15/02

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